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Orange, July 30, 1866.

Dear Wife:

Saturday forenoon I had a two hours' ride, shopping and visiting, with Mrs. Bramhall and Marcia. In the evening, Mr. and Mrs. Burrage (the latter Julia Severance) took tea and spent the evening with us. They are now boarding in Orange, and Julia reports that they are very pleasantly situated as to their boarding-place. They leave to-day for a visit homeward. During the day and evening, we had heavy showers, accompanied with thunder and lightning on a superb scale. A barn was struck near Mr. Bramhall's, and consumed with all its contents.

Yesterday forenoon I went with the Bramhalls to hear Rev. Mr. Bacon preach, a son of my old Colonization opponent, Rev. Dr. Bacon of New Haven, Ct. Mrs. Bramhall attends his church pretty regularly, and regards him as a very good man.



I rode home with them, and took dinner, and remained till 10 o'clock in the evening, Wendell and Lucy, Andrew Jackson Davis and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Collamer, and others, taking tea with us. After tea there was an addition to our company of Mr. and Mrs. Judd, Miss Fowler and her sister, both homeopathic physicians, &c., &c. It was a very pleasant party, and we were handsomely entertained, of course.

I was equally surprised and affected on reading the grateful and expressive letter of our old friend Elias Smith. I infer that he is now doing well pecuniarily; otherwise, I should not be willing to receive his liberal donation to the Testimonial fund. Speaking of that Testimonial, <sup>with</sup> ~~from~~ the New Tribune, a few days ago, had a generous editorial notice about it. I shall try to write to Elias to-day, and enclose your photograph and mine, which no doubt he will prize highly, and receive gladly.



My calculations now are to remain here until Wednesday morning - then go to New York, and attend a Freedmen's Executive Committee meeting, and in the afternoon take a steam-boat for home, but I cannot now decide which route I will take. Perhaps I may conclude to remain on Thursday in Providence, in which case I shall not be with you ~~at sea~~ until Friday forenoon. I shall hope to see Julia before her return, for whose kind services, and attentions in your behalf I am very grateful, and to whom give my special remembrance.

If Mrs. Wright and Ellie are with you still, give them my loving regards, and best wishes for a safe and pleasant trip to Auburn. As for the darling Agnes, don't I wish to hug and kiss the little one, even as in old long syne I did so to Fanny? (over)

Mr. McKim's cough continues severe. My shoulder is no better. All send love.  
 Lovingly yours W. L. G.



Dear Mother: Your letter of yesterday is here, and also one from Frank at N. Randolph, Vt. He was fortunate, it seems, in being able to leave his party without a suspicion of ill feeling, and I think will have gained quite as much for his health by his new programme. I am strongly disinclined to urge his going to College in the face of his aversion.

Father was entertained all day yesterday by the Brombells, who carried him to S. Orange to church in the morning. Lucy & I drove down in time for tea, and A. J. Davis and wife and daughter, with a few other friends made a really pleasant company. Marcia made cake and ice-cream for us which were of the very best. I am sorry to add that Father passed a very wretched night. I am going up myself to see Dr. Dunham this morning.

We had the Burrages at ten on Saturday in spite of a thunder-storm. Julia goes home on Thursday for a few weeks.

Yesterday we were able to rejoice over the Atlantic Cable. Do you realize how near it brings your daughter to you?  
Affectionately Wendell.

Ms. A. 9. 1. 1866 July 30. 1866

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